



Comptroller General
of the United States

Washington, D.C. 20548

Decision

Matter of: Technology Services International, Inc.

File: B-261107

Date: May 12, 1995

DECISION

Technology Services International, Inc. protests the government's estimate of in-house performance used in connection with Department of the Air Force invitation for bids (IFB) No. F64133-94-B-0019, a cost comparison exercise conducted pursuant to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular No. A-76. The IFB involved a cost comparison between the government's in-house estimate and the prices submitted by the bidders. The bid opening occurred on February 24, 1995. The public review and comment period lasted for 15 days, beginning on February 24 and ending on March 17. During this period the bidders had the opportunity to make any comments or objections regarding the government's estimate.

We dismiss the protest.¹


OMB Circular No. A-76, requires that agencies establish appeal procedures for informal administrative review of cost comparisons. Pursuant to the Circular, "the appeals procedure shall be used only to resolve questions concerning the calculation of the cost comparison Directly affected parties may request review of any discrepancy in the cost comparison. Any such requests shall be made in writing to the contracting officer, who shall forward them in accordance with agency procedures. Such requests shall be considered only if based on specific objections and received within the public review period stated in the solicitation." See Federal Acquisition Regulation § 7.307(b).

Since the applicable regulation provides that an affected party may request a review of the government's calculations and requires the government to respond, we have held that we will not review a protest against a cost comparison unless the

¹We first note that it appears that Technology Services is not an interested party since there is another bidder in line for award.

protester has exhausted the administrative remedy available with the contracting agency itself. JAC Mgmt. Inc., 60 Comp. Gen. 372 (1981), 81-1 CPD ¶ 274.

The protest is dismissed.


Michael Golden
Acting Associate General Counsel